

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Independent Claims 1 and 31 have been amended to be consistent with the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance on page 3 of the Notice of Allowability. In the second last sentence in the only full paragraph on this page, it is stated: "All cards that that (sic) are required for play are dealt after the ante and before the bet wager." Accordingly, the claim amendments remove "other" because there is not any bet wager before the five cards are dealt and "other" might imply there was such a bet wager, and the ante wager, as defined, is not a bet wager. The claim amendments add the language "to the ante wager" because, as the Examiner points out in the above-referenced second last sentence, all cards are dealt after the ante wager.

Dependent Claim 11 is amended to overcome an antecedent basis issue. Dependent Claim 32 is amended to change from the indefinite article "A" to the definite article "The" to be consistent with other dependent claims.

Allowed dependent Claims 33 and 35 have been cancelled because it is concluded that they do not further substantively limit the claims from which they depend in light of the Examiner's amendments and/or remarks set out in the Notice of Allowability.

New dependent Claims 36-39, which depend from allowed Claims 1 and 31, incorporate some subject matter from cancelled independent Claim 22. New dependent Claims 40-41 further limit Claims 1 and 31, respectively.

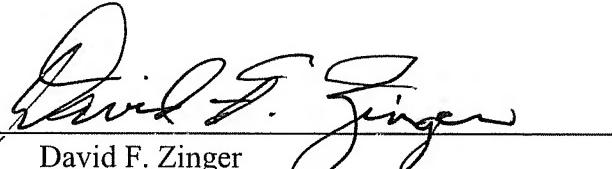
*Application No. 10/817,011*

Because the foregoing claim amendments are provided: so that the independent claims are more consistent with the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance; to remove an antecedent basis error; so that the same article is used in dependent claims; and to delete and add dependent claims, they are all minor in nature. Therefore, this Amendment should be entered and notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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